

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 17561 151123Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 NEA-10
L-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00 CEQ-01
INT-05 DLOS-09 SMI-01 DODE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
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-----151128Z 075644 /15

O R 151123Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4146
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, FR, IWC
SUBJECT: IWC MEETING ON JUNE 20

REF: STATE 127607

1. EMBOFF SAW MARCAGGI OF FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTRY'S INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BUREAU WHERE IWC AFFAIRS ARE HANDLED, AND MADE POINTS AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL. MARCAGGI STATED THAT FRANCE, WHICH DOES NO WHALING, IS IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH THE US ON IWC GOALS ALTHOUGH WITH DIFFERENT VIEWS AS TO THE BEST TACTICS FOR ACCOMPLISHING THEM.

2. FRANCE FAVORS REDUCING TO ZERO THE QUOTAS FOR FIN AND SEI WHALES BUT WILL NEED TO CONSULT WITH ITS OWN COMMISSION SCIENTIFIQUE ABOUT THE QUOTA FOR THE SPERMACETI WHALE. IN THIS CONNECTION HE ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH FRANCE DOES NOT DO ANY COMMERCIAL WHALING, ITS PERFUME INDUSTRY DOES USE SOME OF THE BY-PRODUCTS FROM WHALING, ESPECIALLY THE SPERMACETI WHALE.

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3. FRANCE HAD NO OBJECTION TO RENEGOTIATING THE CONVENTION, MARCAGGI SAID IN REPLY TO EMBOFF QUESTION, TO THE TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM, OR TO HOLDING A CONFERENCE FOR DRAFTING A NEW CONVENTION BEFORE THE END OF 1978. HOWEVER, HIS GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH WAS LESS FORCEFUL THAN OURS, IN HIS VIEW. THERE

WAS SOME CONCERN IN MANY GOF CIRCLES THAT IF JAPAN AND TO A LESSER EXTENT THE USSR WERE PRESSED TOO HARD, THEY MIGHT WELL LEAVE THE IWC WHICH, IN MARCAGGI'S VIEW, WOULD THEN BE RENDERED USELESS. THAT FRENCH OFFICIAL WAS PERSONALLY SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE EFFICACY OF LIMITING IMPORTATIONS OF WHALE PRODUCTS.

4. MARCAGGI BELIEVED THAT THE GOF WOULD SUPPORT THE NEW MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE. HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD FAVOR AN OPEN MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE. THE HEAD OF THE FRENCH DELEGATION WAS TO BE PROFESSOR CHARLES ROUX, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY. BUT SINCE ROUX IS TOO ILL TO TRAVEL AS FAR AS CANBERRA, THE FRENCH ARE TO BE REPRESENTED BY AS YET UNNAMED OFFICERS FROM THEIR EMBASSY IN CANBERRA.

GAMMON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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